

Honorable Sandra L. Koffman, the Mayor of Pacific Grove, California. Sandy, as she is known throughout town, has been a true leader in Pacific Grove and in the wider Monterey Bay region. As she steps down after four consecutive terms as Mayor, I want to take this time to honor her public service. I think it is particularly important that this House, at the pinnacle of American democracy, honor the fundamentally important role that local elected officials such as Mayor Kaufman play in the governance of our great nation. Local politics is the foundation on which our nation rests. Members of Congress simply stand on the shoulders of the Mayors, City Council members, County Supervisors, School Board Members, and the other local elected office holders who give so generously of their time to make our communities work. Sandy is just such a local official. She is the kind of leader who is the first to arrive, the last to leave, and is always there with persistence and energy to move Pacific Grove forward.

Sandy was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. After college, Sandy made her way to California where she began a career in retailing in the Los Angeles area. Sandy and her husband Dan moved to Pacific Grove in 1990, where she immediately became active in the community, serving as a docent for the Monterey Bay Aquarium, cofounding Pacific Grove Eco-Corps in 1991 and the Pacific Grove Residents Association in 1993, and participating in the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce and many other local, national and international organizations. In 1994, the citizens of her adopted city elected Sandy their mayor.

Since her election as mayor, Sandy has contributed in numerous ways to the improvement of Pacific Grove, including protection of the environment, preservation of historic homes, and revitalization of the downtown business district. Sandy has led the City Council effectively through major projects, including a new Youth Center, restoration of historic City Hall and an addition to the Civic Center, approved plans for affordable housing for senior citizens, and a comprehensive sewer maintenance and improvement project.

Sandy has been a highly public, accessible and outgoing Mayor, spending countless hours with all segments of the community to build consensus and bridges of understanding, and has unfailingly conducted meetings with a skillful combination of cordiality and focus. She has participated actively in regional planning and policy-making as Pacific Grove's representative to the Fort Ord Reuse Authority and other organizations, and has worked closely and effectively with the other mayors on a wide range of countywide issues.

On behalf of this House I want to commend Mayor Koffman for her dedicated service and call on her to continue her good work on behalf of the people of Pacific Grove and the United States.

TRIBUTE TO ABBA EBAN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen hero in the cause of

peace, Mr. Abba Eban. In nearly a half-century of service as Israel's premier diplomat, Mr. Eban played a critical role in securing the future of his embattled nation and in defending democracy in the Middle East. News of his passing Sunday grieves all those who knew him and knew his historic work.

My wife and I had the honor of first meeting Abba Eban nearly four decades ago. Even at this early stage in his extraordinary career, he had distinguished himself as one of the most passionate, articulate and compelling voices on the world stage. In introducing President Harry S. Truman to Israel's future leaders, Mr. Eban helped forge a partnership between our two countries that has grown only stronger with the passage of time. Throughout Israel's struggle to survive, Abba Eban provided the words that emboldened the Israeli people and persuaded the world. Perhaps his finest moment came in 1967, when he addressed the United Nations in a heroic and spirited defense of Israel's right to exist. Israel's continued survival is the lasting legacy of his immortal words.

Abba Eban's Churchillian orations at the United Nations are the stuff of legend, capturing the spirit of a brave nation and captivating an anxious world. He instilled pride in all who shared his vision of a free and independent homeland for the Jewish people—and he earned the respect of all who did not. If the pen is mightier than the sword, than Abba Eban's eloquence was among the strongest weapons in Israel's arsenal. He personified his nation's fearless quest for peace.

Abba Eban was also a character the likes of whom the world may never again know. His brilliant intellect, cosmopolitan style and biting wit cast him as the consummate diplomat. He was the picture of professionalism. But behind this polished public persona was a human being who, like his countrymen, struggled to live in peace and with dignity.

Reflecting on the life of Abba Eban, we better understand that a nation's greatness is defined not by the strength of its arms or the extent of its wealth, but by the virtues of its people. Abba Eban was indeed a great and virtuous man, a most fitting emissary of a great and virtuous people. Let us commemorate his life by leading our own as he led his.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE TIM ROEMER

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2002

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most highly regarded members of the House of Representatives, the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Select Education, TIM ROEMER, from Indiana's Third District.

As David Broder, the esteemed Washington journalist wrote of TIM, he is "ending a singularly useful House career by retiring."

Throughout his 12 years as a member of the House, TIM has focused on important matters aimed at improving our way of life such as education and the AmeriCorps program. Likewise, he brought his considerable talents to bear as a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Most notably, his tenure here has been marked by his consistent willingness to put aside partisan differences in effort to find reasonable and worthwhile solutions.

I recently had the privilege of working with TIM on a matter that we both considered to be very important, the Adams Memorial, which will honor our second president, John Adams, and his wife, Abigail. As the ranking member of the Resources Committee, which passed the bill out, I'm proud to say that President Bush signed the bill into law last year. Similarly, just the other day, the House passed legislation approving the Secretary of the Interior's decision on placement of the memorial.

Mr. Speaker, TIM is the embodiment of the true civil servant who interrupts his career in order to serve his Nation. And when his service is complete, he simply chooses to return to private life as still a young man with great potential for even more achievement.

While we here will miss TIM and his valuable contributions, we wish him well as he returns to private life, and most importantly, to his wife and their children.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COLONEL GARY WOODWARD

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2002

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my constituent, Lieutenant Colonel Gary Woodward, U.S. Air Force Reserve, who will be retiring on November 30th of this year.

Col. Woodward began his service as a member of the Ohio Air National Guard, USAF Security Police (Air Police) and was a graduate of the first class of the ANG Academy of Military Sciences (NCO Academy) at the McGhee-Tyson Air Force Base in Knoxville, Tennessee.

He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1972, and named Commander of the 178th Security Police unit at Springfield, Ohio. In 1974, Lt. Woodward's unit was mobilized to provide humanitarian support to the Xenia tornado disaster. Under his leadership, this unit was awarded the Air Force's Outstanding Unit Award, recognized for its excellent support to the Ministry of Defense in the United Kingdom concerning a number of successful European deployments, and also was recognized for its outstanding inspection ratings.

In 1993, Lt. Col. Woodward was promoted to his present grade and awarded the USAF Commendation Medal. In 1995, he was recognized for his professionalism and outstanding support to the Space and Missile Center, Los Angeles AFB, and three years later the U.S. Secretary of Defense acknowledged Lt. Col. Woodward's leadership as the Project Officer for the National Defense Conference at Wright-Patterson AFB. Identified as mission critical and extremely valuable to the USAF, Lt. Col. Woodward was selected and approved to continue service beyond his retirement date.

During all of this, Lt. Col. Woodward had a successful, 25-year banking career and served on the Fairborn City Council. He and his wife, Diana, still reside in Fairborn, and are the proud parents of two daughters, Elizabeth and Melody.